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Media Advisory

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Recommended Citation

Balch, Michelle, "Media Advisory" (2001). *News and Events*. Paper 1051.
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April 12, 2001

Contact: Michelle Balch, 309/556-3181

Media Advisory

Event: Speaker: Gloria Bradley, head coach of women's basketball, Wayne State University, Detroit, Mich.

Date: April 18 (Wednesday)

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Location: Main Lounge, Memorial Student Center, 104 E. University St., Bloomington

Admission: Free, open to the public

Background: In its second year at Illinois Wesleyan University, the C.H.A.M.P.S. (Challenging Athletes Minds for Personal Success)/Lifeskills program has invited Gloria Bradley, head women's basketball coach at Wayne State University to speak on women in athletics in the new millennium. The title of her speech is, "Women in Sports."

Monica Taylor, director of Multi-Cultural Affairs, a co-sponsor of the event, said that Bradley was invited to speak because, "we were impressed with her accomplishments. I thought it would be a good program to bring to campus to motivate students," said Taylor.

Before coaching at Wayne State University, Bradley spent seven seasons at Montclair University in Upper Montclair, N.J., where she led the team to three East Coast Conference Championships and one NCAA Tournament appearance in 1995. Bradley also coached at her alma mater, Seton Hall University, South Orange, N.J., for two seasons.

The C.H.A.M.P.S. program, nationally launched in 1994, is sponsored by the promotional and financial efforts of the the NCAA, NCAA Foundation, and the Division 1-A Athletic Directors Association.

C.H.A.M.P.S.' education outreach mission is "to provide services and support to its membership, public and media to develop and enhance the life of the student-athlete through educational programs and resources focusing on gender equity, student-athlete welfare and life skills." The organization's mission statement is carried out through its five commitment statements:

- The commitment to academic excellence
- The commitment to athletic excellence
- The commitment to personal development
- The commitment to career development
- The commitment to service

According to Jason Williams, director of the IWU C.H.A.M.P.S. program, the event is open to all students. "Everyone is welcomed into the program," he said, "students do not have to be an athlete."